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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/056,091	01/28/2002	Kuniaki Shimada	826.1787	9425

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EXAMINER

NANO, SARGON N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/056,091

Examiner

Sargon N. Nano

Applicant(s)

SHIMADA ET AL.

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5 January 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11 - 15, 18 - 21, 25, 31 - 35 Renumbered 1 - 15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

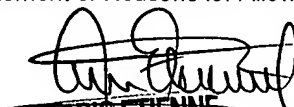
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


ARIQ ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNICAL CENTER 2100

**SUPPLEMENTAL
EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. This is responsive to amendment received on Jan. 5, 2006. Claims 1, 11, 26, 31, 36, 38, 39, 40 and 41 were amended.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Thomas E. McKiernan on Friday March 10, 2006.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1 – 10, 16, 17, 22, 23, 23, 24, 26 – 30 and 36 - 41.

2. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.109 and MPEP. 1302. The following is an examiner's reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly nor in combination the claimed limitation of " A packet relay processing apparatus having a network connecting device wherein

The network connecting device comprises:

- a session managing unit managing a session;
- a packet processing unit relaying a packet based on session management made by said session managing unit;
- a process distributing unit;
- a plurality of service processing units;
- said process distributing unit distributes a packet to at least one of said plurality of service processing units based on contents of a service for the packet; and
- a service processing unit to which the packet is distributed performs a service process for the packet;
- a session table storing session information about a session, and
- a policy table storing a policy which describes a rule for executing a service for a packet;
- said session managing unit searches said session table by using information included in the packet as a search key, upon receipt of the packet;
- if corresponding session information is not registered to said session table as a result of the search , said session managing unit obtains a corresponding policy from said policy table by using information included in the packet as a search key, and writes session information to said session table based on the obtained policy; and
- if corresponding information is not registered to said table as a result of the search, said session managing unit manages the session information stored in said session table based on a state of the session", as in claim 11.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and , to avoid processing delays , should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sargon N. Nano whose telephone number is (571) 272-4007. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 hour.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571) 272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sargon Nano
March 13, 2006


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